

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARIS 24808 01 OF 02 261123Z  
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 MCT-01 COME-00 ACDA-07 /077 W  
-----068553 261136Z /15

P 261113Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7654  
INFO AMCONSUL BORDEAUX  
AMCONSUL LYON  
AMCONSUL MARSEILLE  
AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE  
AMCONSUL NICE  
AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 PARIS 24808

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PINT, PINS, FR  
SUBJ: CORSICAN BOMBINGS AND AFTERMATH

REF: NICE 387

SUMMARY. WITH RISING HOSTILITIES BETWEEN THE RIVAL  
CORSICAN ORGANIZATIONS, VIOLENCE ON THE ISLAND HAS  
TAKEN A SIGNIFICANT UP-TURN. THE ANNOUNCEMENT BY  
PRESIDENT GISCARD OF PLANS TO VISIT CORSICA COULD BE  
CONSIDERED A FURTHER IRRITANT TO THE TROUBLED  
SITUATION. IN ADDITION, CORSICAN LEADER SIMEONI HAS  
CALLED FOR A CENSUS, CORSICAN IDENTITY CARDS AND AN  
INTERNATIONAL DEBATE ON THE ISLAND'S STATUS. WHILE  
THE OVERWHELMING MAJORITY OF CORSICAN INHABITANTS,  
INCLUDING THE ISLAND'S STRONGEST SINGLE PARTY -- THE  
BONAPARTISTES -- ARE NOT IN FAVOR OF INDEPENDENCE, THE  
GOF WILL BE EMBARRASSED BY ANY CONTINUATION OF VIOLENCE  
AND MILITANCY FOR INDEPENDENCE-TYPE THEMES. END SUMMARY.  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PARIS 24808 01 OF 02 261123Z

1. DURING THE NIGHT OF FRIDAY 12 TO SATURDAY 13 AUGUST  
SEVEN BOMBINGS TOOK PLACE THROUGHOUT CORSICA. THE MOST  
SERIOUS OF THE EXPLOSIONS WAS THE BLOWING-UP OF THE MOST  
IMPORTANT TELEVISION AND RELAY STATION IN CORSICA. THE  
DAMAGE CAUSED WILL TAKE MONTHS TO REPAIR AND IN THE  
MEANWHILE THE WHOLE OF NORTHERN CORSICA WILL BE ENTIRELY

WITHOUT TELEVISION. THE NATIONAL FRONT FOR THE LIBERATION OF CORSICA (FNLC) HAS CLAIMED RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE BOMBINGS WHICH WERE HIGHLY UNPOPULAR THROUGHOUT THE ISLAND AND HAVE BEEN CONDEMNED BY ALL CORSICAN MILITANT ORGANIZATIONS - EXCEPT, OF COURSE THE FNLC.

2. THE BOMBINGS WERE TIMED TO OFFSET AN AUTONOMIST MEETING AT FURIANI ON SUNDAY, AUGUST 14. EDMOND SIMEONI, LEADER OF THE AUTONOMIST UNION DU PEUPLE CORSE (UPC, FORMERLY ARC THEN APC - REORGANIZED AFTER THE VIOLENCE OF ALERIA IN 1975) HAD CALLED FOR THE MEETING AT FURIANI TO CLARIFY HIS PARTY'S PRESENT POSITION. THE LONG STATED GOAL OF THE UPC IS "A CORSICAN NATION WITHIN A FRENCH STATE." ALTHOUGH THE AUTONOMISTS INSIST ON THEIR OPPOSITION TO THE NATIONALISTS AND BELIEVE THAT ONLY HARM CAN COME FROM FNLC BOMBING TACTICS, THE GOF IS INCREASINGLY INCLINED TO VIEW THE UPC AS AN INDEPENDENCE (AND THEREFORE NATIONALIST) FORCE. THE NATIONALIST FNLC, HOWEVER, ACCUSES THE UPC AND OTHER AUTONOMIST ORGANIZATIONS OF TAKING TOO SOFT A LINE, OF BETRAYING THE CORSICAN NATION.

3. EDWARD SIMEONI MANAGED TO GATHER A CROWD OF APPROXIMATELY 10,000 AT FURIANI. HE AND HIS SUPPORTERS CONSIDER THIS TO BE A VICTORY IN ITSELF. A TOUCH OF STAGE-MANAGEMENT WHICH ADDED TO THE ECLAT OF THE MEETING WAS CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 PARIS 24808 01 OF 02 261123Z

THE APPEARANCE OF MAX SIMEONI, EDMOND'S BROTHER AND FUGITIVE FROM JUSTICE, WHO SHOWED HIMSELF TO A

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 PARIS 24808 02 OF 02 261127Z

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 MCT-01 COME-00 ACDA-07 /077 W

-----068616 261132Z /15

P 261113Z AUG 77  
FM AMEMBASSY PARIS  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7655  
INFO AMCONSUL BORDEAUX  
AMCONSUL LYON  
AMCONSUL MARSEILLE  
AMCONSUL MARTINIQUE  
AMCONSUL NICE  
AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 PARIS 24808

SYMPATHETIC PUBLIC AFTER A YEAR OF HIDING. THE NATIONALISTS WERE CONDEMNED, SEVERAL AUTONOMIST PROJECTS WERE ANNOUNCED (A CENSUS, IDENTITY CARDS FOR CORSICANS) AND, MOST IMPORTANTLY, E. SIMEONI ANNOUNCED HIS INTENTION OF BRINGING THE CORSICAN PROBLEM INTO THE INTERNATIONAL ARENA - AN UNUSUAL PROPOSAL FOR AN AUTONOMIST. THE PRINCIPAL REASON FOR THE FURIANI MEETING WAS TO CONSOLIDATE SUPPORT BY MODERATES OF THE AUTONOMISTS AGAINST THE NATIONALISTS AND TO REITERATE AUTONOMIST CLAIMS THAT REFORMS GRANTED BY PARIS ARE STILL INSUFFICIENT.

4. A FURTHER AND PERHAPS NOT UNEXPECTED DEVELOPMENT IN THE ISLAND'S CONFLICT WAS THE ANNOUNCEMENT (PUBLISHED IN THE NOUVEL OBSERVATEUR, AUGUST 22) BY EDMOND SIMEONI THAT TWO HIGH OFFICIALS, IN THE MINISTRIES OF DEFENSE AND INTERIOR, ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ORGANIZING BOMBING ATTACKS AGAINST THE AUTONOMISTS THROUGH A SMALL GROUP OF HIRED CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 PARIS 24808 02 OF 02 261127Z

THUGS. THE PREFECT FOR THE REGION OF CORSICA HAS FORMALLY REJECTED THIS ACCUSATION, BUT SOME OBSERVERS BELIEVE OFFICIAL INVOLVEMENT CANNOT TOTALLY BE DISCOUNTED.

5. IT IS IN THIS CLIMATE OF RISING HOSTILITY BOTH WITHIN CORSICA ITSELF AND AGAINST THE CONTINENT THAT GISCARD ANNOUNCED THIS WEEK PLANS TO VISIT THE ISLAND. HE WILL GO "AT THE RIGHT TIME" IN ORDER TO EXAMINE POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS TO THE ISLAND'S PROBLEMS WITH THE LOCAL ELECTED OFFICIALS AND WITH THE PEOPLE. IN VIEW OF THE LACK OF A COMPREHENSIVE POLICY TOWARD THE ISLAND, A PRESIDENTIAL VISIT MAY BE SEEN AS A PROVOCATION BY CORSICAN ACTIVISTS. BUT GISCARD MAY ALSO BE HOPING TO PICK UP SOME POLITICAL DIVIDENDS IN NOT FLINCHING FROM THE CHALLENGE OF THIS VISIT. IF THE QUEEN CAN GO TO ULSTER, THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC CAN GO TO CORSICA. IN ANY CASE, HIS VISIT IS UNLIKELY TO QUIET

THINGS MORE THAN TEMPORARILY, AND MAY EVEN HAVE THE  
EFFECT OF CAUSING MORE VIOLENT FLARE-UPS.  
HARTMAN

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** BOMBING, POLITICAL SITUATION, INTELLIGENCE ASSESSMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 26-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977PARIS24808  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770309-0301  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** PARIS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1977/newtext/t19770819/aaaaapdm.tel  
**Line Count:** 173  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** afd55b52-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 4  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 77 NICE 387  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 02-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1468724  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** CORSICAN BOMBINGS AND AFTERMATH  
**TAGS:** PINT, PINS, FR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/afd55b52-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009